



SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

KERN COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Community Health Center
Administrative Office
900 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 250
Bakersfield, California 93301

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, May 27, 2025

11:30 A.M.

BOARD RECONVENED – Director Martinez convened the meeting of the Board at 11:32 A.M., and established a quorum was present.

Board Members: Avila, Behill, Kemp, Lopez, Martinez, Nichols, Sandoval, Smith, Williams
Roll Call: 5 Present; 4 Absent – Behill, Kemp, Lopez, Nichols

NOTE: The vote is displayed in bold below each item. For example, Smith-Behill denotes Director Smith made the motion and Director Behill seconded the motion.

CONSENT AGENDA: AGENDA/OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: AS INDICATED BELOW WITH A "CA" WAS REVIEWED, DISCUSSED, AND APPROVED AS ONE MOTION.

BOARD ACTION SHOWN IN CAPS

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- 1) This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Board on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Board. Board members may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification, make a referral to staff for factual information or request staff to report back to the Board at a later meeting. In addition, the Board may take action to direct the staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda.
NO ONE HEARD

BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS

- 2) On their own initiative, Board members may make an announcement or a report on their own activities. They may ask a question for clarification, make a referral to staff or take action to have staff place a matter of business on a future agenda (Government Code section 54954.2(a)(2)) – DIRECTOR WILLIAMS STATED HE SAW THAT A NEW FEDERAL BILL WILL CUT FUNDS FOR HEALTH CARE FOR THE INDIGENOUS AND ASKED IF THAT WAS TRUE AND IF IT WOULD HAVE ANY EFFECT ON THE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER (CHC). FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR RESPONDED THAT THOSE CUTS WILL NOT GO INTO EFFECT UNTIL 2028. OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATOR TYLER WHITEZELL CLARIFIED THAT THERE ARE TWO ASPECTS OF THAT BILL; ONE ON THE FEDERAL SIDE AND ONE ON THE STATE SIDE. THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IS REQUIRED TO CUT BACK ON ITS UIS (UNSATISFACTORY IMMIGRATION STATUS) MEDI-CAL PROGRAM. THE FEDERAL H.R.1 BILL INCLUDES A SECTION REQUIRING REDETERMINATION OF MEDICAID MEMBERS EVERY SIX MONTHS. MEMBERS WILL NEED TO PROVIDE PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY EVERY SIX MONTHS. HE FURTHER ADDED THAT IF CUTS LIKE THAT WERE TO HAPPEN, THE COUNTY OF KERN WOULD STILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE TO THE INDIGENT AND THE KERN COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY AND THE CHC WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE COUNTY TO OBTAIN FUNDING.

CA

- 3) Minutes for the Kern County Hospital Authority Community Health Center Board of Directors regular meeting on April 22, 2026 – APPROVED

Smith – Sandoval: 5 Ayes; 4 Absent – Behill, Kemp, Lopez, Nichols

- 4) Report on Patient Appreciation Week – KERN COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY DIRECTOR OF PRACTICE MANAGER DEANNA HELLMUND AND NURSING ADMINISTRATOR ALICIA GAETA MADE THE PRESENTATION REGARDING PATIENT APPRECIATION WEEK. THEY EXPLAINED THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE EVENT WAS TO RECOGNIZE THE PATIENTS OF THE CHC AS PART OF AN INITIATIVE TO STRENGTHEN THE CHC'S CONNECTION TO ITS PATIENTS AND REINFORCE THE COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING HIGH QUALITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS TO THE COMMUNITY. AS PART OF THIS ENDEAVOR A VIDEO WAS CREATED THAT SHOWED VARIOUS HOSPITAL AND CHC STAFF THANKING THE PATIENTS FOR TRUSTING THEM TO BE THEIR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS. DIRECTOR MARTINEZ ASKED IF THE PATIENT APPRECIATION VIDEO WAS PLAYED AT ALL FACILITIES AND WAS POSTED ONLINE. NURSING ADMINISTRATOR CONFIRMED THAT THE VIDEO WAS PLAYED AT ALL FACILITIES AND WAS POSTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS INCLUDING TIK TOK AND FACEBOOK. NURSING ADMINISTRATOR EXPRESSED HOW PATIENT APPRECIATION WEEK IS AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY TO REINFORCE OUR VALUES OF COMPASSION AND PATIENT-CENTERED CARE. DIRECTOR OF PRACTICE MANAGER STATED THAT KERN COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY WILL BE MAKING THIS AN ANNUAL EVENT EVERY APRIL MOVING FORWARD TO SHOW ITS COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING THE BEST CARE TO THIS COMMUNITY.

RECEIVE AND FILE

Smith – Sandoval: 5 Ayes; 4 Absent – Behill, Kemp, Lopez, Nichols

- 5) Report on the Kern County Hospital Authority Community Health Center Quality Metrics – DATA ANALYTICS MANAGER KEVIN JENSEN PRESENTED THE DATA FOR QUARTER ONE OF 2026. THE DATA ANALYTICS MANAGER NOTED THAT THESE METRICS RESET AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR AND TARGETS ARE RECALIBRATED USING THE UPDATED NATIONAL BENCHMARKS AND PRIOR YEAR PERFORMANCE. THE PRESENTATION SHOWED THE METRICS BEING TRACKED AND WHERE THE CHC IS IN MEETING THE METRICS CURRENTLY. DIRECTOR WILLIAMS ASKED IF THE 19.4% OF CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION STATUS DID NOT MEET THE TARGET BECAUSE PARENTS DO NOT BRING THEIR CHILDREN IN TIMELY. DATA ANALYTICS MANAGER RESPONDED THAT SOME PARENTS DO NOT WANT THE VACCINES FOR THEIR CHILDREN AND SOME PARENTS DO NOT BRING THEIR CHILDREN ON TIME TO GET THEIR VACCINES. SOME VACCINES NEED TO BE ADMINISTERED AT A CERTAIN AGE, WHICH ALSO CONTRIBUTES TO THE DEFICIT IN THIS METRIC. THE DATA ANALYTICS MANAGER EXPLAINED THE INITIATIVES STAFF ARE IMPLEMENTING TO IMPROVE THE METRICS. DIRECTOR SANDOVAL ASKED HOW THE CERVICAL SCREENING SELF-SWAB AND AT HOME FOBT (FECAL OCCULET BLOOD TEST) FOR COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING KITS WORK, IF THE PATIENT PICKS UP THE KITS AND COLLECT SAMPLES AT HOME. DATA ANALYTICS MANAGER RESPONDED THAT SOME KITS SUCH AS THE FOBT COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING KITS MAY BE PICKED UP AND THEN SAMPLES MAY BE MAILED OR DROPPED OFF AT THE CLINICS. THE SELF-SWAB CERVICAL SCREENING KITS ARE PROVIDED TO PATIENTS IN THE CLINICS FOR THOSE PATIENTS WHO DO NOT WANT A PROVIDER TO PERFORM THE SWAB. THOSE PATIENTS MAY SELF-SWAB AT THE CLINIC. EDUCATION IS PROVIDED TO THESE PATIENTS SO THAT THE TESTS HAVE BETTER ACCURACY.
RECEIVE AND FILE
Avila – Williams: 5 Ayes; 4 Absent – Behill, Kemp, Lopez, Nichols
- 6) Report on the Kern County Hospital Authority Community Health Center Health Center Service Utilization for April 2026 –
NURSING ADMINISTRATOR ALICIA GAETA PRESENTED THE CHC'S SERVICE UTILIZATION DATA FOR APRIL 2026. NURSING ADMINISTRATOR WENT OVER THE DATA THAT HAD STAYED RELATIVELY THE SAME AS THE MARCH DATA. DIRECTOR MARTINEZ ASKED ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE PHONE UPGRADE. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RESPONDED THAT THE APPOINTMENT LINES WILL GO LIVE SOON. SHE ADDED THAT THE COLUMBUS LOCATION IS THE LAST LOCATION THAT NEEDS TO BE UPGRADED, AS ALL OTHER LOCATIONS HAVE BEEN UPGRADED. DIRECTOR MARTINEZ ALSO ASKED IF THE "NO SHOW" NUMBERS INCLUDE BOTH PATIENTS WHO DO NOT SHOW UP AND THOSE WHO RESCHEDULE. NURSING ADMINISTRATOR RESPONDED THAT ONLY THE PATIENTS WHO DO NOT SHOW UP OR CALL TO CANCEL THEIR APPOINTMENT ARE INCLUDED IN THE NO SHOW DATA. PATIENTS WHO CALL TO CANCEL THEIR APPOINTMENT ARE OFFERED TO RESCHEDULE THEIR APPOINTMENT AS SOON AS A SAME DAY APPOINTMENT.
RECEIVE AND FILE
Smith – Avila: 5 Ayes; 4 Absent – Behill, Kemp, Lopez, Nichols
- 7) Report on the Kern County Hospital Authority Community Health Center financials for March –
FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR ANDREW CANTU PRESENTED THE MARCH FINANCIALS. DIRECTOR MARTINEZ ASKED IF A PATIENT IS ONLY ABLE TO PAY 50% OF THE MEDICAL FEES, WHO COVERS THE REST. FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR RESPONDED THAT THOSE COSTS WOULD COME OUT OF "OTHER INCOME" BUDGET. ONCE THE FQHC RATE IS

SECURED, THE KERN COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY CONTRIBUTION WILL DROP AND THE "OTHER INCOME" BUDGET WILL INCREASE.

RECEIVE AND FILE

Avila – Sandoval: 5 Ayes; 4 Absent – Behill, Kemp, Lopez, Nichols

- 8) Kern County Hospital Authority Community Health Center Executive Director Report – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RENEE VILLANUEVA MADE THE PRESENTATION. SHE ANNOUNCED THAT THE PHONE UPGRADES ARE ALMOST COMPLETED WITH COLUMBUS BEING THE LAST LOCATION TO BE UPDATED. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THE IT DEPARTMENT IS WORKING ON A CALCULATOR TO CALCULATE RATES ELECTRONICALLY ON THE COMPUTER TO ASSIST IN REGISTERING PATIENTS MORE ACCURATELY AND EFFICIENTLY. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FUTHER ANNOUNCED THAT THERE IS A NEW CONTACTOR WORKING ON THE RATE SETTING THAT WILL BE SET IN AUGUST. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT SOME OF THE EXECUTIVES WILL BE ATTENDING A CONFERENCE NEXT MONTH IN WHICH THEY WILL HAVE A SET TIME TO ASK HRSA QUESTIONS. LASTLY, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR THANKED THE BOARD FOR ALL THEIR WORK AND DEDICATION. RECEIVED AND FILED

Smith – Sandoval: 5 Ayes; 4 Absent – Behill, Kemp, Lopez, Nichols

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- 9) Miscellaneous Correspondence as of April 15, 2026 –
RECEIVED AND FILED

Smith – Sandoval: 5 Ayes; 4 Absent – Behill, Kemp, Lopez, Nichols

ADJOURNED TO WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026 AT 11:30 A.M.

Smith

/s/ Marisol Urcid
Clerk of the Board of Directors

/s/ Elsa Martinez
Chairman, Board of Directors
Kern County Hospital Authority Community Health Center